



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

November 13, 1985

Mr. Bryce Caldwell
Uintah County Commission
County Building
147 East Main
Vernal, Utah 84078

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

RE: Uintah County Tar Sands, DOE/047/019, Uintah County, Utah

Your tar sand's site was visited by Everett Hooper, Reclamation Soils Specialist, and Tom Munson, Reclamation Hydrologist, on August 1, 1985 and was found to be well contoured and graded to fit into the natural surroundings. Evidence of some rill erosion was found, as well as a large headcut forming at the outlet of the drainage channel. It is recommended by the Division that this headcut be stabilized before it works its way back up through the reclaimed drainage. This could be accomplished by reducing slopes and adequately protecting against erosion through the use of filter cloth under riprap, porous check dams or a similar form of protection in the area of the headcut.

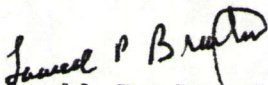
According to Rule M-10(4), Reclamation Standards, all waste piles, spoil piles and fills shall, if possible, be regraded to a rounded configuration and shall be sloped to minimize safety hazards and erosion.

Although an attempt has been made to do a good job on this site, stabilization of erosion is an essential aspect of the success of reclamation and must be continued to maintain the effort has been invested so far by the county while meeting the requirements of the regulations.

Page 2
Mr. Byron G. Merrell
DOE/O47/019
November 13, 1985

Any questions or concerns regarding this correction action should be directed to myself or Tom Munson of the Division staff.

Sincerely,


Lowell P. Braxton
Administrator
Mineral Resource Development
and Reclamation Program

btb
cc: Ev Hooper
Tom Munson
John Whitehead
8860R-13 & 14